

WASHINGTON COLLEGE ACADEMY of LIFELONG LEARNING



Spring 2013 Newsletter

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

This will be my last contribution to the Newsletter as Chair of the WC-ALL Council. After three years, I shall be yielding the mantle (and burden) of this august office to my successor come the end of our fiscal year in May. I shall serve another year on the Council before term limits overtake me but obviously in a different capacity.

I would particularly like to thank all of the members of the Council, past and present, who have made my life as Chair so much easier and who have so greatly contributed to the success we have had in expanding the horizons of the Washington College

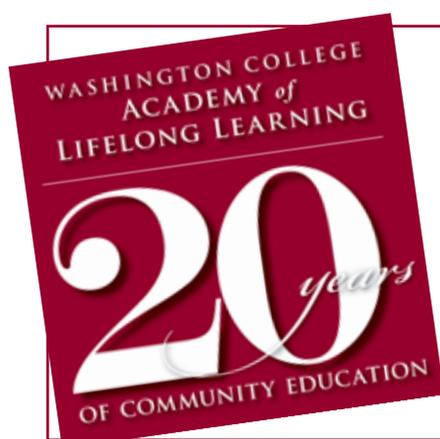


WC-ALL Administrator Meghan Siudzinski shows off our new sign and mail drop at the office. See more about Meghan on page 6.

Academy of Lifelong Learning. Their dedication to pushing the dimensions of what we do beyond what it was in the past, their willingness to work to make those ambitions actually happen, and their sense

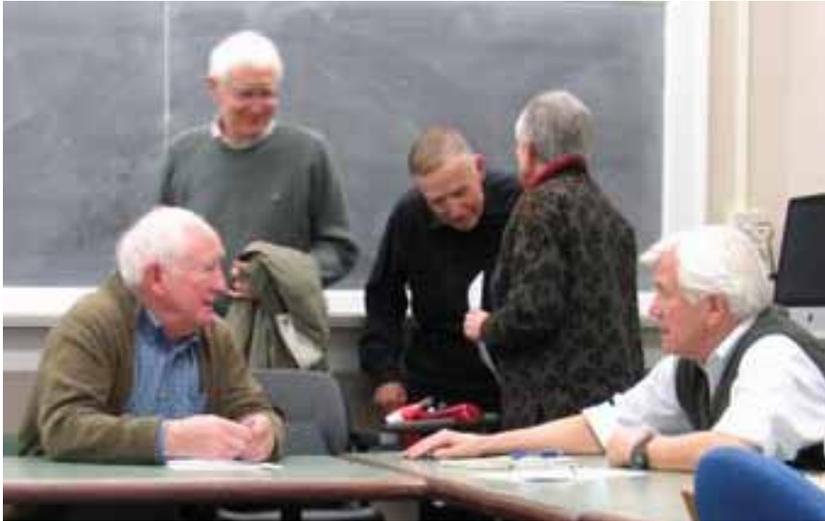
of respect and humor have benefited WC-ALL and its members enormously and have made the process along the way a most collegial adventure.

Two of our present Council members, Trish Harwood and Jack Stenger, will reach the end of their second three-year term in May and, by our term limit rules, must leave the Council. Trish and Jack have not by any means just been Council members. Trish, our Publicity Chair and Vice Chair for several years, has capably performed every role that a Council member could fill when other volunteers have



JOIN US FOR THE
WC-ALL
20TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION
AND
ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY MAY 16, 2013
5 - 7 P.M.
CASEY ACADEMIC CENTER



The annual faculty “debriefing” discussions continued after adjournment. Pictured l to r are John Christie, WC-ALL Chair and faculty Jim Urda, Harold Woodhull, Sue Urda, and Turner Smith.

not been available, and deserves great credit for the dramatic rise in community interest in our activities through more regular and attractive publicity. As Chair of our Curriculum Committee for a number of years, Jack has kept our instructor roster filled with new and diverse instructors and subjects and has borne the responsibility for locating high-quality instructors when voluntary proposals have been smaller in number than we would wish. Neither of these will be an easy vacancy to replace.

It has been a pleasure to have been Chair of WC-ALL. As our 20th Anniversary Year winds down, there is no doubt that the Academy has a bright future ahead. We continue to enjoy the enthusiastic support of Washington College for which we remain so grateful. Our growing number

of members and dramatic increases in course registrations are a clear sign that our members believe in the importance of lifelong learning. Our Learn at Lunch programs, wine dinners and other special events provide wonderful opportunities for socializing while learning. Our experiment with more adventuresome travel, both at home and abroad, has been enthusiastically received. Our mentor program for international students accommodates an increasing number of young people from countries all over the world, enlivening both their lives and ours. As our third decade begins, I am confident that my successor and the Council will strive to maintain these positive trends and find even newer and better ways to advance our mission.

— John Christie, Chair

CURRICULUM

It might seem early, but we are already thinking about the course line-up for next fall. First, some reflections on the Spring Semester are in order.

The number of courses which we were able to offer for the Spring Semester turned out to be lower than usual. Only with a bit of arm twisting were we able to have the seventeen which were taught, and we are most grateful to several instructors who agreed to help. Margie Elsberg and Connie Godwin, Jane Hukill, Lucia Rather, and Harold Woodhull all responded to our entreaties, and Dick Lance helped by teaching a second course.

We welcomed three new instructors this semester: Gail Johnston, a retired geriatric social worker and writer offered a discussion course on aging; Peter Heck, Chestertown native, writer, and *Kent County News* reporter, is teaching a course on Mark Twain’s classic *Huckleberry Finn*. John Wieczoreck, a retired college teacher, offered a course on the early talkies of the American cinema.

Our success in attracting new WC-ALL members has challenged us to offer more courses, both to broaden our offerings and to help address the problem of having more members wishing to take certain courses than classroom space

We are excited about potential courses for next year and hope members will be too. Among those who have said they will teach are Patricia Molloy (a year-long look at United Artists), Turner Smith (The Navy in the Civil War), Terry Finn (World War One) and Sherwin Markman (a repeat of his popular LBJ course). We need many more courses! The course proposal form is online, <http://www.washcoll.edu/offices/wc-all/propose-a-course.php>. Fall deadline is June 1, 2013.

will allow. Some members have responded with suggestions and we encourage members to volunteer to teach and to look to their neighbors and friends for those who have a passion for a subject to see if they might share it at WC-ALL. Fall 2013 course proposals are due by June 1. The course proposal form is online at <http://www.washcoll.edu/offices/wc-all/propose-a-course.php>. One need not be an experienced teacher. All that is needed is an interest in discussing a subject with others. We would provide assistance, when needed, in the techniques of developing and presenting a course.

We had our 3rd annual faculty “debriefing” to get feedback on courses and the ease/challenges

of teaching. Now it’s your turn. If you haven’t done so already, members can “debrief” us too by completing a course evaluation online at <http://www.washcoll.edu/offices/wc-all/course-comments.php>.

— Jack Stenger, Curriculum Chair

SPECIAL EVENTS

It was a busy spring filled with the January Showcase, Learn At Lunch programs, and day trips to the Dover Air Mobility Command Museum (which got rave reviews from participants) and Historic New Castle. The goal of the Special Events Committee is to provide enjoyable programs including a variety of speakers, day trips, and celebrations

that will augment your time in classes. Committee members are Francie Miller and Kathy Sack, co-chairs, Bobbie Chase, Susan Hellewege, Carol Beaven, and Ginny Barker. Contact any one of us to share your thoughts, ideas, and yes, even criticism! We want to know what you would like to see, hear, do, and visit.

The final Learn at Lunch is April 10. Dr. Anne Marteel-Parrish, Chair of the Department of Chemistry, will talk about the impact of green chemistry practices on our environment and how students are being trained to incorporate these practices into their own research. Learn at Lunch programs are a reasonable \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. They provide an opportunity for a delicious



March Learn at Lunch speaker Dr. Phillip Walsh met all the attendees before his presentation. He is pictured here with member Anne Miller.

lunch while sharing in the passions of our speakers.

For the past several years, we have enjoyed a year-end party. This year's Celebration and Annual Meeting from 5 – 7 p.m. on May 16 in the Casey Academic Center will honor our 20th Anniversary and our instructors and allow members to gather one last time at the end of the WC-ALL academic year. Ginny Barker will coordinate the festivities. Mark your calendars now and look for your invitation in the mail very soon!

— Kathy Sack, Special Events Co-Chair

FROM THE COLLEGE

The new and improved Johnson Lifetime Fitness Center was reopened and rededicated this spring after undergoing a \$2 million renovation. One of the benefits is \$100,000 worth of new exercise and training equipment in the Davenport Cardio Gallery.

Also this spring, the former Office of International Studies changed its name to The Global Center for Education to reflect its overall mission. It is located in Foster House, 408 Washington Avenue. International students have a fabulous home base on campus, and the Center staff will be able to offer expanded programming for students getting ready to study abroad.

Former FBI Director Louis Freeh was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws at the College's Spring Convocation. Over a dozen students were also recognized as new members of the College's Phi Beta Kappa Society and Chestertown Manager Bill Ingersoll received the 2013 President's Medal.

As part of one of the College's broader initiatives, called "Mapping Your Future Paths to a Career," which assists students with career planning and experiential educational opportunities, the Administration has launched a Freshman and Sophomore Externship/Job Shadowing Program. This allows younger students to explore career options before they decide on majors and minors and to observe various types of work environments. This March, 21 students participated as

externs in government, businesses, and non-profit organizations representing an array of interests and professions. The program will be expanded to engage more students, will be offered more times during the academic year, and will include locations beyond the Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Washington DC areas. Participating students must meet eligibility criteria and attend a seminar on professionalism in the workplace prior to the externship. If WC-ALL members know of an "externship" opportunity, please email me, alange2@washcoll.edu.

The Dining Hall staff in Hodson always serves up great fare, in a friendly atmosphere, but recently, they were honored for their outstanding customer service and increased sales at the regional competitive level. They will vie for national awards later in the



Learn at Lunch is a great way to learn with friends. Betsy Butler, Marti Hawkins, Linda Kramer and Gerry Edwards joined each other at the March gathering.

year. The food venues recognized in this round included: Mondo's Subs, Martha's Kitchen, and the new Miller Library coffee spot. WC-ALL members are always welcome to enjoy a meal at the Dining Hall and when you do, be sure to congratulate the enthusiastic, customer-oriented staff.

The Kohl Art Gallery this Spring featured the work of several young Washington DC artists as part of a series titled ArtNOW. This DC-focused exhibit was preceded by one displaying the work of young Baltimore artists and will be followed in 2014 by work from young Philadelphia artists.

Shoreman fans can follow the teams and schedules for the rest of the season and in the fall on the web: <http://www.washcoll.edu/athletics>.

— Andrea Lange, College Liaison to WC-ALL

WC-ALL WEBSITE

Misplaced your course catalog again? Need a reminder of the Learn at Lunch schedule? Want to know more about WC-ALL



instructors in the upcoming semester? You're in luck as the new WC-ALL website, <http://www.washcoll.edu/offices/wc-all> has been launched. It's convenient, comprehensive and always available. The goal is to provide maximum information about WC-ALL activities and easy ways to connect both to WC-ALL and other campus activities. You can check information, class schedules and locations, evaluate your WC-ALL experiences and make suggestions. And course registration is easier than ever by using the on-line registration form.

The new look and improved functionality of the website took place as part of Washington College's new web initiative.

The tour of the Dover Air Mobility Command Museum was informative and fun! WC-ALL members got an inside view of planes.

Starting early last summer, under a contract with the California-based web page design company White Whale Web Services, the College's web presence and all of its pages were redesigned. The new service provided by White Whale, called Content Manager System - or CMS for short - gave authorized personnel in the administrative and academic departments of the College the power to design, edit and post online web content for their units. The overall purpose of this move was to keep navigation consistent among all College units for an informative and positive user experience.

WC-ALL now enjoys the status of a regular administrative department of the College, so its web pages also were part of the redesign process.

WC-ALL's web site is managed, designed and posted by a committee consisting of our

Be mindful of our hosts. The WC-ALL office has received several complaints about noise outside classrooms. Since College classes may be in progress at the same time you are heading to class, please be quiet in hallways and when standing outside your classroom waiting for the time to enter.

Administrator, Meghan Siudzinski; two Council members, Trish Harwood and Mary Pritchard; and Dick Lance, our valued webmaster. The web committee will continue to tweak the look and improve the efficiency of WC-ALL's web pages. Your comments are welcome on the Contact Us page which can be reached by a link on the WC-ALL home page at <http://www.washcoll.edu/offices/wc-all/>.

So, keep an eye on our web site to ensure you have the latest news about courses, trips and other activities. And if you have something on your mind that you want to share with us, post your thoughts on the form on our contact page.

— Mary Pritchard, WC-ALL Council

MENTORING

Word filtered back from international students' various destinations on Spring Break that they enjoyed seeing more of America in places like New Orleans, Miami and others.

A number of new mentors have joined our loyal group, getting to know students from China, Japan, Israel, and Morocco. Meals and shopping remain big attractions. It was especially so in the lead up to the Birthday Ball, part of Washington College tradition.



Learn about upcoming courses at our Fall 2013 Showcase on August 21. Faculty members Bayly Janson-LaPalme, Jane Hukill, John Wieczoreck and Sam Barnett wait their turn to describe what they had in mind for the Spring 2013 semester.

This was an activity that was new to so many of the internationals because many come from universities that do not have designated campuses, let alone a big bash once a year.

As the weather begins to improve, other activities will present themselves, and the enthusiasm of the mentoring group and the students will certainly make for a whole new crop of memories.

Photos are always appreciated. Please submit to Barbara Parker, bparker235@gmail.com.
— Barbara Parker, Mentor Co-Coordinator

A NEW FACE AT WC-ALL

It's our great pleasure to introduce you to our new office administrator, Meghan

Siudzinski. Meghan joined us in November and her keen organizational skills, new ideas, knowledge of the College and its network, and her extremely upbeat attitude have been welcomed by our instructors, members, and particularly by our Council.

Meghan lives in Chestertown with her husband Robert and their two young children. She graduated from the College of Charleston and received a Masters Degree in Anthropology from the College of William and Mary. Robert is an Assistant Professor of Education at Washington College. While she is fully into meeting our needs, she is also involved in the Kent County community and serves on the Chestertown Historic District Commission. Meghan's tasks for WC-ALL are numerous, and she's

extremely busy when in the office so we encourage you continue to use email, mail and telephone to communicate. Meghan will be joining us for our 20th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting on May 16, so if you haven't met her, that's another reason to plan to attend.

Our very warm welcome to Meghan and a big "thank you" for all you do for us!

YOUR SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

The world of learning is changing and new internet-based tools are a large element. When you were a kid, how many times did you hear "Look that up in the library next time you're there?" The mid-20th Century brought the Encyclopædia Britannica and Book of Knowledge into many American homes ... sometimes bought at the local grocery store, one precious volume at a time.

Fast forward: today we reach for a laptop or smartphone and "google it".

While WC-ALL is a catalyst for learning in a particularly collegial atmosphere, the new electronic tools are just as valuable to our on-going search for knowledge as those precious books once were. So we've a proposal! During these next few months, when our

instructors take a break and the College plays host to other groups, join this exciting world and try some on-line learning.

If you're not sure how to get started, AARP has a comprehensive article on what kind of internet connection and software you'll need and how to get started at http://www.aarp.org/personal-growth/life-long-learning/info-01-2010/learn_anything_online_for_free.html/. For those of you ready to go, here's a sampling of some good sites:

For general learning:

Khan University's 4,000 video library covers everything from K-12 math, science topics such as biology, chemistry, and physics, to the humanities with playlists on finance and history. Each video is a digestible chunk, approximately 10 minutes long, and especially purposed for viewing on the computer. <https://khanacademy.org/about>

YouTube EDU (<http://youtube.com/education>) brings learners and educators together in a global video classroom where you have access to a broad set of educational videos that range from academic lectures to inspirational speeches and everything in between.

Academic Earth is a user-friendly educational ecosystem that

gives internet users around the world the ability to easily find, interact with, and learn from full video courses and lectures from the world's leading scholars. There is a truly impressive lineup of participating universities, at <http://academicearth.org/>.

For those looking to spend their summer in more practical pursuits: Try WonderHowTo, an entertaining site with instructional videos on how to do things you never even knew you wanted to do! <http://wonderhowto.com>.

Have a terrific summer, whatever you do. We look forward to seeing you all again at Showcase on August 21. Meanwhile, try some of these and the myriad other learning opportunities on the web. Who knows? Maybe you'll soon be leading a WC-ALL class in one of these topics!
— Trish Harwood, Publicity Chair



Thursday, June 20 at 6 p.m.
at Occasions
\$60 per person. Seating is limited.
Call the WC-ALL office 410-778-7221
for reservations.



WASHINGTON COLLEGE

EST. 1782

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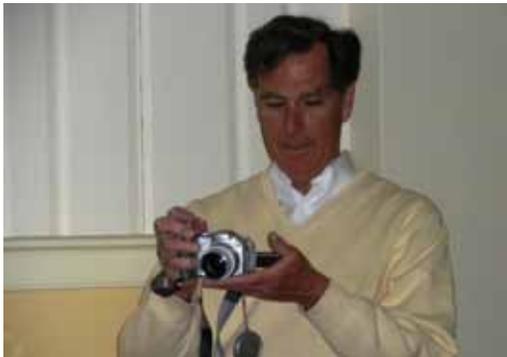


Photo credits: Our thanks to Dick Lance, Betty Spence and Brooke Harwood (Brooke is pictured hard at work) for the photos in this issue.

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We'd like to hear from more of you! If you have high resolution photos of our Members engaged in WC-ALL activities you'd like us to consider, please email them to Betty Spence at 4wc.all@gmail.com

Coming Events

Let's look ahead to the 2013-14 academic year.

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| August 21, 2013 | Fall Showcase |
| September 11, 2013 | Learn at Lunch, Steve Frohock, War of 1812 |
| October 16, 2013 | Learn at Lunch, Mort Ryan, Formula One Race Cars: Every Man's Dream |
| November 20, 2013 | Learn at Lunch, Ginger Hansen, Experiences in WWII Phillipines |
| January 14, 2014 | Spring Showcase |
| Spring, 2014 Learn at Lunch events: February 12, March 19 and April 9 | |

More information and registration materials will be posted at www.washcoll.edu/offices/wc-all/special-events.php. Special events information will also be sent via email closer to the time. Make sure we have your current email address.